

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

February 21, 2003 LB 274, 443

One of them was LB 443. And so I've done that, and I've brought that bill back, and I think that was the right move. I also think that during the course of discussion there's also an opportunity to make amendments. And I think that some of those amendments either deal with issues between government agencies or things like that, and I think that's fair too. I will also say that I think there are times when you can offer an amendment without a specific public hearing on the issue, as long as it's well aware of what's going on. The question, I guess, that I would have for Senator Chambers, if he would yield...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, you yield?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR ERDMAN: As I read the bill, beginning on line...or, excuse, your amendment, on page 3, line 20, and you spoke to this in your opening, beginning January 1, 2004, a person shall not operate a pet shop unless the person obtains a license as a pet shop. Have you had any discussions...I'm assuming this would be done through the Department of Ag?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes. They do all of the licensing. And it would be done the same way that they do it right now with all the others who deal with these animals.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Do you happen...you said that you don't know specifically how many pet shops are in the state, and I don't either. Have you had any discussions with the Department of Ag about, is this a realistic time frame? I'm not assuming there's a ton of pet shops out there. And, you know, giving them until the first of next year to become licensed, and to go through a process to become licensed, is that an issue?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: It hasn't been raised to me yet. But if we go ahead and adopt it and it becomes an issue, anybody would then have notice. As I suggested to the committee, if we put the amendment on, it notifies everybody, and any questions they have, they can raise them at that time. Oh, but I'm on your time now, so (inaudible)...